

# Efficacy of brain natriuretic peptide vs nicorandil in preventing contrast-induced nephropathy: a network meta-analysis (#66761)

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# Efficacy of brain natriuretic peptide vs nicorandil in preventing contrast-induced nephropathy: a network meta-analysis

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This study aimed to conduct a network meta-analysis to compare the efficacy of brain natriuretic peptide vs nicorandil for preventing contrast-induced nephropathy(CIN). Databases of Pubmed, Cochrane, Embase, Web of Science were searched by keywords for eligible studies of randomized controlled trials investigating different agents(BNP, nicorandil, nitroglycerin, intravenous saline) for preventing CIN. The outcomes included a change in serum creatinine at 48 hours and the incidence of CIN after percutaneous coronary intervention(PCI) or coronary angiography(CAG). A total of 13 studies with 3462 patients were included. Compare with intravenous saline alone, intravenous saline plus pharmacological drugs significantly reduced serum creatinine at 48 hours, with mean differences of -5.13 (95%CI:-14.33,4.07) for nitroglycerin, -7.14 (95%CI:-11.34,-2.94) for BNP, -5.57 (95%CI:-8.93,-2.20) for usual-dose nicorandil, -10.08(95%CI:-17.42,-2.74) for double-dose nicorandil, and decreased the incidence of CIN (nitroglycerin of OR,1.02[95%CI:0.36, 2.88]; BNP of OR,0.35[95%CI:0.24,0.51]; usual-dose nicorandil of OR, 0.35[95%CI:0.24, 0.51]; double-dose nicorandil of OR, 0.27[95%CI: 0.11, 0.68]). Statistical differences were found in the serum creatinine and the incidence of CIN among these four preventing methods. In conclusion, BNP is more effective for preventing the incidence of CIN than nicorandil.

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## **Abstract**

This study aimed to conduct a network meta-analysis to compare the efficacy of brain natriuretic peptide vs nicorandil for preventing contrast-induced nephropathy(CIN). Databases of Pubmed, Cochrane, Embase, Web of Science were searched by keywords for eligible studies of randomized controlled trials investigating different agents(BNP, nicorandil, nitroglycerin, intravenous saline) for preventing CIN. The outcomes included a change in serum creatinine at 48 hours and the incidence of CIN after percutaneous coronary intervention(PCI) or coronary angiography(CAG). A total of 13 studies with 3462 patients were included. Compared with intravenous saline alone, pharmacological drugs **combined** intravenous saline significantly reduced serum creatinine at 48 hours, with mean differences of -5.13 (95%CI:-14.33,4.07) for nitroglycerin, -7.14 (95%CI:-11.34,-2.94) for BNP, -5.57 (95%CI:-8.93,-2.20) for usual-dose nicorandil, -10.08(95%CI:-17.42,-2.74) for double-dose nicorandil, and decreased the incidence of CIN (nitroglycerin of OR,1.02[95%CI:0.36, 2.88]; BNP of OR,0.35[95%CI:0.24,0.51]; usual-dose nicorandil of OR, 0.35[95%CI:0.24, 0.51]; double-dose nicorandil of OR, 0.27[95%CI: 0.11, 0.68]). Statistical differences were found in the serum creatinine and the incidence of CIN among these four

preventing methods. In conclusion, BNP is more effective for preventing the incidence of CIN than nicorandil.

**Keywords:** Contrast-induced nephropathy, Brain natriuretic peptide, Nicorandil, Meta-analysis

# 1. Introduction

Percutaneous coronary intervention(PCI) or coronary angiography(CAG) is common method for treatment and diagnosis of coronary heart disease. However, the application of contrast agents for patients undergoing CAG or PCI usually induce contrast-induced nephropathy(CIN). CIN refers to an abrupt damage in renal function after the administration of contrast agents<sup>[1-3]</sup>. CIN is a serious complication featured by deterioration of renal function which may lead to water-sodium retention aggravating heart failure and to drug accumulation increasing adverse drug reaction<sup>[4]</sup>. In the long run, it will induce damage on other organ such as cardiovascular system and digestive system.

With the increased application of contrast agents for radiation diagnosis and interventional therapy, the rate of CIN continues to rise. It has been reported that the incidence of CIN varies from 2% to 50%, it likely more occurred in patients with risk factors, such as pre-existing renal impairment, diabetes mellitus, congestive heart failure, advanced age, and hypertension<sup>[5]</sup>. CIN is the third most common cause of hospital-acquired acute kidney injury prolonging hospitalization and increasing some poor outcomes, such as dialysis and cardiovascular diseases<sup>[6-8]</sup>. Therefore, CIN has become one of the important issues affecting the survival and prognosis of patients.

Nowadays, there is no effective method to therapy CIN, therefore more and more studies have been conducted to explore methods for preventing CIN<sup>[9,10]</sup>. A large number of randomized controlled trials(RCTs) have demonstrated pharmacological drugs could prevent the incidence of CIN. These years, prostaglandin analogues and BNP analogues are applied to prevent the CIN in the PCI and CAG. Some RCTs showed rhBNP and nicorandil interventions could reduce the incidence of CIN and SCr levels in the PCI and CAG<sup>[11,12]</sup>. However, there was no study evaluate and compare the efficacy of rhBNP and nicorandil in preventing CIN. This study conducted an NMA of RCTs in order to directly and indirectly compare the efficacy of rhBNP vs nicorandil for

preventing CIN in PCI or CAG.

## 2. Methods

The protocol of this NMA has been registered on the International Prospective Register of Systematic Review with a registration number of CRD42021278424. We reported this NMA based on the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) statement for NMA.

### 2.1 Data sources and searches

Two reviewers (MZW and ZQK) independently searched the literature and disagreements were resolved by consensus-based discussion. We searched an extensive literature from Pubmed, Cochrane, Embase, Web of Science and clinicaltrials.gov databases. The deadline of publication for inclusion in the meta-analysis was August 2021. Our search terms and search strategy were ((nicorandil) OR (brain natriuretic peptide)) AND ((coronary angiography) OR (percutaneous coronary intervention)); (contrast-induced nephropathy) AND ((nicorandil) OR (brain natriuretic peptide)). In addition, references included to related meta-analysis were viewed potential studies.

### 2.2 Study selection

The final studies were selected by the following inclusion criteria: (1) full-RCTs; (2) evaluating the efficacy of CIN preventing; (3) all patients following PCI or CAG; (4) hydration is the co-intervention in the treatment and control groups; (5) reported sufficient data and at least one of the following outcomes: the incidence of CIN, serum creatinine (SCr) level.

Studies were excluded according the following features: (1) non-RCTs; (2) duplicate publication; (3) animal studies; (4) lacking data about the incidence of CIN and serum creatinine level.

### 2.3 Endpoint

The primary outcome was CIN defined by an increase in serum creatinine of  $>0.5\text{mg/dL}$  or  $>25\%$  from baseline within 48hours after PCI or CAG, but the definition of CIN reported by included study was accepted. The secondary endpoints were changes in the SCr, before and after the procedure. If the SCr value was reported at multiple timepoints, we extracted at the 48h after

procedure.

## 2.4 Data Extraction and Quality Assessment

There reviewers (ZLM, CPP and ZCY) independently extracted data from original trial reports by a standardized form. By discussion with a third reviewer (JL), discrepancies were settled. The characteristics of the enrolled studies in each group including first author, publication date, country, sample size, baseline characteristics of the patients, incidence of CIN, SCr level were extracted. Each included study was assessed by the risk of bias evaluated tool from the Cochrane Handbook for Randomized Controlled Trials. This assessment was completed independently by two investigators (MZW and ZH) and disagreements were discussed with a third reviewer and resolved through consensus.

## 2.5 Data analysis

We used network meta-analysis to estimate the treatment effect of pharmacological interventions by the odds ratio(OR) for the incidence of CIN and mean difference(MD) for SCr level at 48h after procedure with a 95% confidence interval(CI). The treatment hierarchy was summarized and reported according the cumulative ranking curve(SUCRA) and mean ranks. SUCRA was presented as a percentage and used to determine the probability of a treatment being the most effective, without uncertainty on the outcome. The higher probability viewed as the best intervention was the larger surface area under the curve.

Inconsistency was assessed by global inconsistency, loop-specific and node-splitting approach between direct and indirect evidence. In global inconsistency,  $P > 0.05$  was considered there was no statistical significance about heterogeneity among the evidences. For loop-specific approach, the extent of bias and inconsistency was evaluated by IF. When an IF with a 95% CI including 0, demonstrated the treatment effect from direct and indirect evidence are in agreement. For node-splitting approach, the result of compared evidence between direct and indirect evidence was reported and  $P$  value,  $P > 0.05$  indicated there is no inconsistency. Statistical analyses were performed using STATA 15.0 (Stata Corporation, College Station, Texas, USA).

## 3. Results



### 3.1 Study characteristics

13 RCTs studies were included for analysis after removing the duplicate studies, reviews, non-RCTs, and irrelevant content. The literature search process is shown in Figure 1. Five nodes were included in our NMA shown in Figure 2. The publication year of the included studies ranged from 2014 to 2019. 3462 participants were included totally and female participants accounted for 31.43%. The sample sizes ranged from 128 to 1000. The information and baseline characteristic of the studies are provided in Table1 and Table2. The 13 RCTs contained the following comparisons: BNP vs hydration(n=4), BNP vs nitroglycerin(n=1), nicorandil vs hydration(n=8).

### 3.2 Quality of the included studies

Most of the studies were judged to be at low risk of bias for 6 domains<sup>[13-17]</sup>, according to the Cochrane Collaboration's tool. 8 studies were judged to be at high risk of bias for they were not blinded<sup>[18-25]</sup>. One study were judged to be at high risk of bias for participants were randomized according to the participating centers and the severity of the renal dysfunction (eGFR  $\leq 40$  or  $>40$  mL/min)<sup>[20]</sup>. The risk of bias assessment of the trials included in this study is presented in Figure 3.

### 3.3 Network meta-analysis results

#### 3.3.1 The incidence of CIN

Totally 12 RCTs including 3332 participants were evaluated the effect of pharmacological interventions for the incidence of CIN. **Compare with intravenous saline alone**, nitroglycerin, BNP, nicorandil plus intravenous saline are shown more effective in reducing the incidence of CIN and there was statistically significant (nitroglycerin of OR, 1.02[95%CI:0.36,2.88]; BNP of OR, 0.35[95%CI:0.24,0.51]; usual-dose nicorandil of OR, 0.35[95%CI:0.24, 0.51]; double-dose nicorandil of OR, 0.27[95%CI: 0.11, 0.68]) (Figure 4). Results of the pairwise comparisons are indicated by the ORs and 95%CI shown by Figure 5. Double-dose nicorandil was superior to BNP, BNP was associated with lower CIN risk than usual-dose nicorandil.

#### 3.3.2 Efficacy of SCr level after the procedure

Related to the change in the SCr levels, 11 RCTs including 3084 patients were available to

the network meta-analysis. We found significant differences in efficacy between all the drugs and the intravenous saline alone. Compared with intravenous saline alone, BNP, nicorandil plus intravenous saline significantly reduced the SCr levels, with mean differences of -5.13(95%CI:-14.33,4.07) for nitroglycerin, -7.14(95%CI:-11.34,-2.94) for BNP, -5.57(95%CI:-8.93,-2.20) for usual-dose nicorandil, -10.08(95%CI:-17.42,-2.74) for double-dose nicorandil(Figure 6). Double-dose nicorandil was reduce much more than BNP in the SCr levels after procedure. Usual-dose nicorandil was less effect than BNP in reducing the SCr levels after procedure. Results of the pairwise comparison are indicated by the MDs and 95%CIs shown by Figure 5.

### 3.3.3 Ranking of the CIN occurrence and SCr levels of all enrolled agents

The surface under the cumulative ranking(SUCRA) curves are presented in Figure 7. SUCRA was used to rank the efficacy of the drugs interventions in our study. The SUCRA values provide the hierarchy for five interventions that are 12.8, 14.5, 69.5, 68.9, 84.3% of intravenous saline, nitroglycerin, rhBNP, usual-dose nicorandil, double-dose nicorandil for the incidence of CIN(Table 3) and are 3.7%, 45.7%, 66.5%, 48.6%, 85.6% of intravenous saline, nitroglycerin, BNP, usual-dose nicorandil, double-dose nicorandil for reducing the SCr levels(Table 4). According to the SUCRA, double-dose nicorandil plus intravenous saline had the best efficacy in the CIN occurrence and reducing SCr levels, followed by BNP and low-dose nicorandil, whereas intravenous saline ranked worst.

### 3.3.4 Heterogeneity and inconsistency assessment

All RCTs were tested for the inconsistency assessed by global inconsistency, loop-specific and node-splitting approach between direct and indirect evidence. In global inconsistency, the result of  $P=0.072(>0.05)$  was demonstrated there was no statistical significance about heterogeneity among the evidences. For loop-specific approach, the IF is 0.85(95%CI: 0.00-2.33) indicated the treatment effect from direct and indirect evidence are in agreement. For node-splitting approach, the results are presented in Table 5.  $P\text{-value}>0.05$  indicated no inconsistency among the direct and indirect comparisons.

### 3.3.5 Small-study effect analysis

The results of the comparison-adjusted funnel plots indicated that there may not be small-study effects for efficacy (Figure 8).

#### 4. Discussion

There is a high-risk of the CIN occurrence caused by the administration of contrast agents for patients undergoing CAG and PCI. Periprocedural hydration is the most common method for intervention the incidence of CIN in clinical practical application. For patients with non-dehydration, 500 mL of water was suggested to drink before the contrast examination. In addition, within 24 h contrast exposure administrating 2500 mL of intravenous saline to sustain a urine generation rate over 1 ml/kg/h<sup>[26]</sup>. This method is effective for prevention the incidence of CIN. However, how much the volume of hydration is sufficient to effectively decrease the incidence of CIN hasn't been standardized. In addition, the fluids in periprocedural hydration may aggravate disease condition for patients with heart failure or edema and increase arrhythmias and short-term death risk in high risk patient<sup>[27,28]</sup>. Therefore, researches effort to study the therapy of various pharmacological agents in preventing the incidence of CIN. It indicated that compared with intravenous saline alone, pharmacological agents intervention have better benefits to reduce the occurrence of CIN.

Currently, more recent interventions about prostaglandin analogues and BNP analogues are confirmed that could prevent the incidence of CIN. It proved BNP have diuretic and natriuretic action by increasing glomerular filtration rate(GFR)<sup>[29]</sup>. This action makes it improving renal hemodynamics and tubular function<sup>[30]</sup>. According this pharmacological action, a number of studies have been performed to use BNP to reduce the incidence of CIN in patients undergoing PCI or CAG. Nicorandil is a combination of nicotin amide vitamins and nitrates improving blood flow by opening ATP-sensitive potassium channel and cytoplasmic guanosine cyclase in the kidneys<sup>[31,32]</sup>. It was shown effective in reducing the incidence of CIN. Whereas there is rare guideline recommend them. One reason probably is inadequate study data could determine the effect of prostaglandin analogues and BNP analogues for preventing the CIN. This study is the

first network meta-analysis to specifically evaluate the efficacy of nicorandil(prostaglandin analogues) and rhBNP(BNP analogues) for preventing the incidence of CIN after PCI and CAG procedure.

In our study, we made some observations from evidence of 13 RCTs with 3462 patients. First, pharmacological agents of rhBNP and nicorandil combined with intravenous saline were identified to be benefit additionally to reduce the occurrence of CIN and the SCr levels at 48h after PCI and CAG procedure than intravenous saline alone. Nitroglycerine was similar to the intravenous insaline alone in reducing CIN occurrence and SCr levels. It suggested that the current evidence supports the clinical application of rhBNP and nicorandil in PCI and CAG. Second, between nicorandil and rhBNP, double-dose nicorandil had the highest SUCRA ranking in reducing CIN occurrence and SCr levels and rhBNP was second in SUCRA ranking. These findings demonstrated double-dose nicorandil have better efficacy than rhBNP for reducing CIN occurrence and SCr levels. However, rhBNP perform better action than usual-dose nicorandil. Therefore rhBNP is more effect and suitable than nicoradil for usual-dose pharmacological intervention in reducing the incidence of CIN after PCI and CAG. It indicated that more studies can be performed to explore the potential of rhBNP in reducing the incidence of CIN in the future.

The pathophysiology of CIN is may related to the direct nephrotoxic effects and hemodynamic changes induced by contrast agents. Contrast agents have direct cytotoxic effects on renal tubular epithelial cells and vascular endothelial cells. It could increases the level of endothelin and adenosine and decrease release of NO and prostaglandins that trigger medullary ischemia and decline GFR in the kidney<sup>[33]</sup>. In addition, the administration of contrast agents during PCI or CAG could increases resistance of renal vascular representing sustained vasoconstriction and decrease renal blood flow. The accumulation of contrast agents could creates a osmotic environment that induce cellular apoptosis<sup>[34]</sup>. In the condition of overpressure and volume expansion, BNP is released from the membrane granules of cardiomyocytes. The contrast medium can be diluted and excreted by the effect of BNP in increasing diuresis and natriuresis. BNP also could increases in GFR by dilating glomerular afferent arteries and constricting the

efferent arteries. Nicorandil as prostaglandin analogues increases the renal blood flow by improving the release of nitric oxide and alleviates the inflammatory reaction by antagonizing the production of intracellular oxygen free radicals. The results of our study proved rhBNP and nicorandil could prevent the incidence of CIN. Although there is difference on the mechanism of reducing the CIN between rhBNP and nicorandil, they all perform important role on improving the renal ischemia. Besides, BNP can aggravates the excretion of contrast agents and nicorandil presents relief of inflammatory reaction. The result of this NMW rhBNP perform better action than usual-dose nicorandil probably because of the excretion produced by rhBNP

Our results presented statistically significant reduction of the occurrence of CIN and SCr levels by pharmacological intervention from RCTs. Previous meta-analysis made by Xuebiao Wei et al<sup>[35]</sup> summarized the incidence of CIN after intervention with rhBNP from five RCTs with 1441 patients, but limited to study the SCr level change. Past meta-analysis lack comparison study in treat effect and intervention dose between rhBNP and nicorandil for preventing CIN incidence. Compared with these previous reports, there are several advantages to consider in our analysis. First, our study compared the intervention efficacy of rhBNP and nicorandil for CIN prevention and analysed the SCr levels change which previous study hasn't researched. Second, we made dose-effect relationship and comparison between rhBNP and nicorandil. It's important for using pharmacological intervention during the PCI or CAG by appropriate dosage in clinical practice application. In previous study, the efficacy comparison of different dose drugs on reducing the incidence of CIN and SCr levels hasn't been consideration. However, there are some limitations in this study. First, a small number of trials with insufficient participants may affect the accuracy of evaluating the treatment effect. Second, the time of diagnosing the CIN after PCI and CAG varied among studies. Therefore, we analysed one outcome of CIN incidence by odds ratio according the result of included study report. Third, the relationship between CIN and clinical consequences wasn't investigated because of insufficient data.

## 5. Conclusion

This study is the first network meta-analysis to compare the efficacy of rhBNP, nicorandil,

nitroglycerine and intravenous saline in preventing the occurrence of CIN. Based on direct and indirect comparison, we developed SUCRA ranking of these drugs according to their efficacy on the incidence of CIN and SCr levels. SUCRA ranking indicate rhBNP(1.5ug/kg) perform better efficacy than usual-dose nicorandil in reducing the SCr levels and CIN incidence. Compared with intravenous saline alone, combined with rhBNP or nicorandil could prevent CIN incidence in PCI and CAG, the efficacy of combined nitroglycerine was similar to intravenous saline alone. Double-dose nicorandil(10mg) perform better efficacy than rhBNP(1.5ug/kg). Although, the OR of the CIN incidence in rhBNP trials was same as in nicorandil trials,

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# **Compliance with ethical standards**

**Conflict of interest** None.

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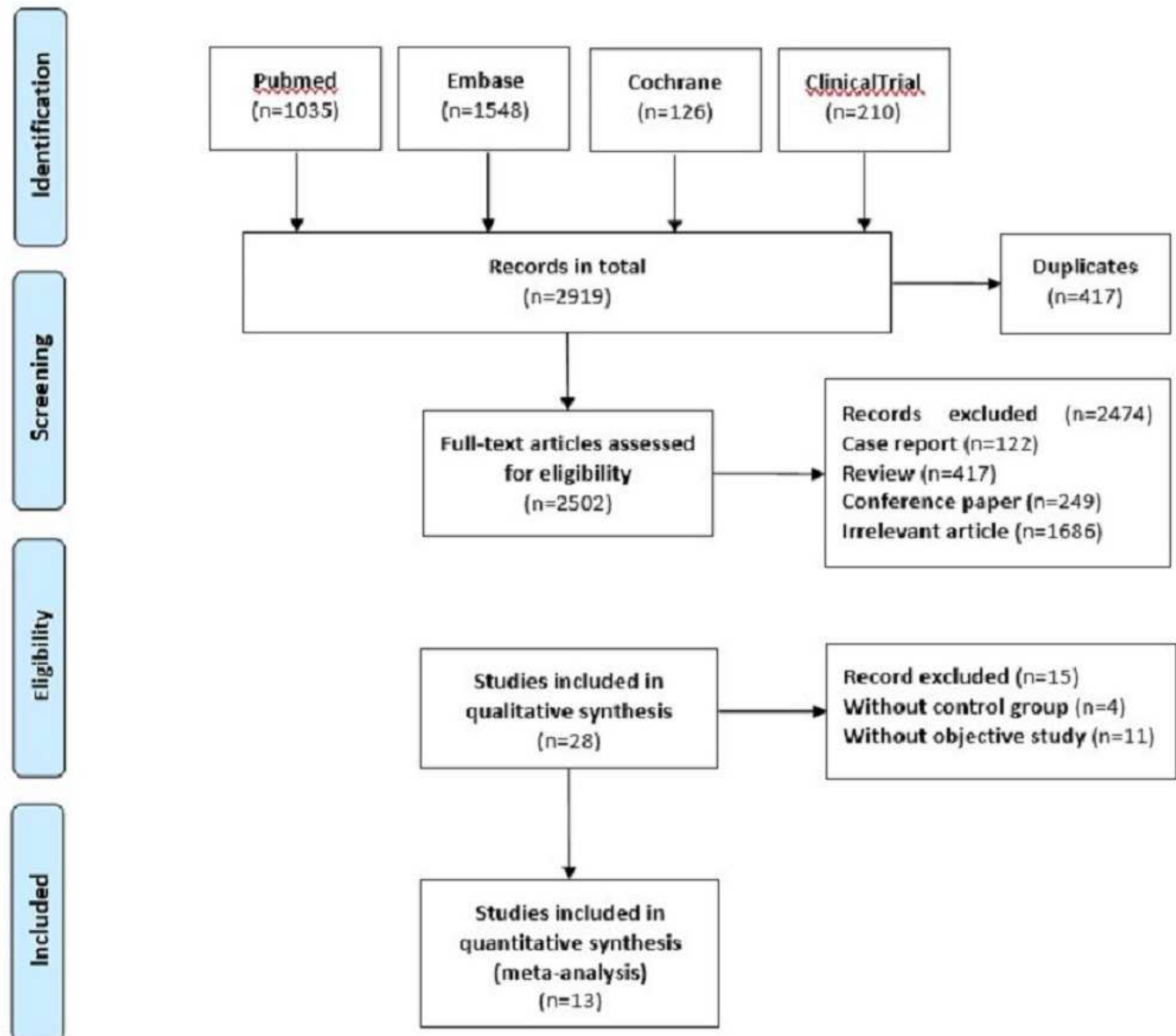
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# Figure 1

Flow chart of literature search and selection

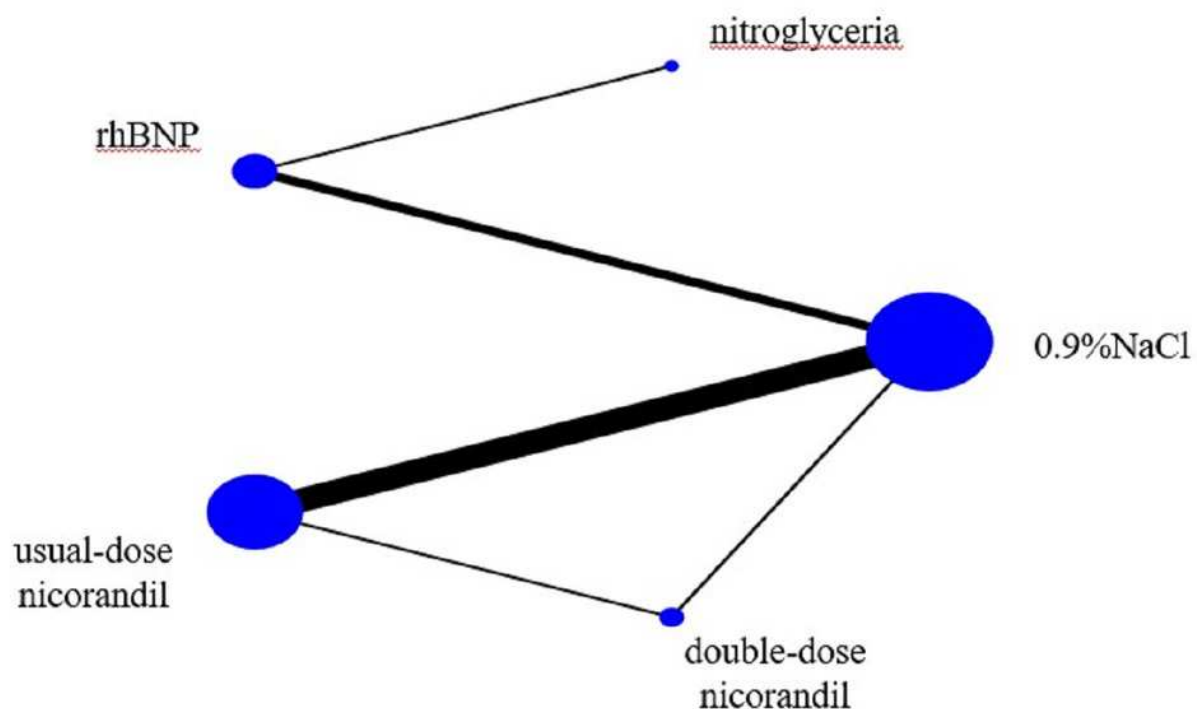
Flow chart of literature search and selection



# Figure 2

Network of all pharmacological agents included in the analysis. Nodes represent the treatments being compared. The edges indicate direct comparisons and the width is proportional to the number of trials.

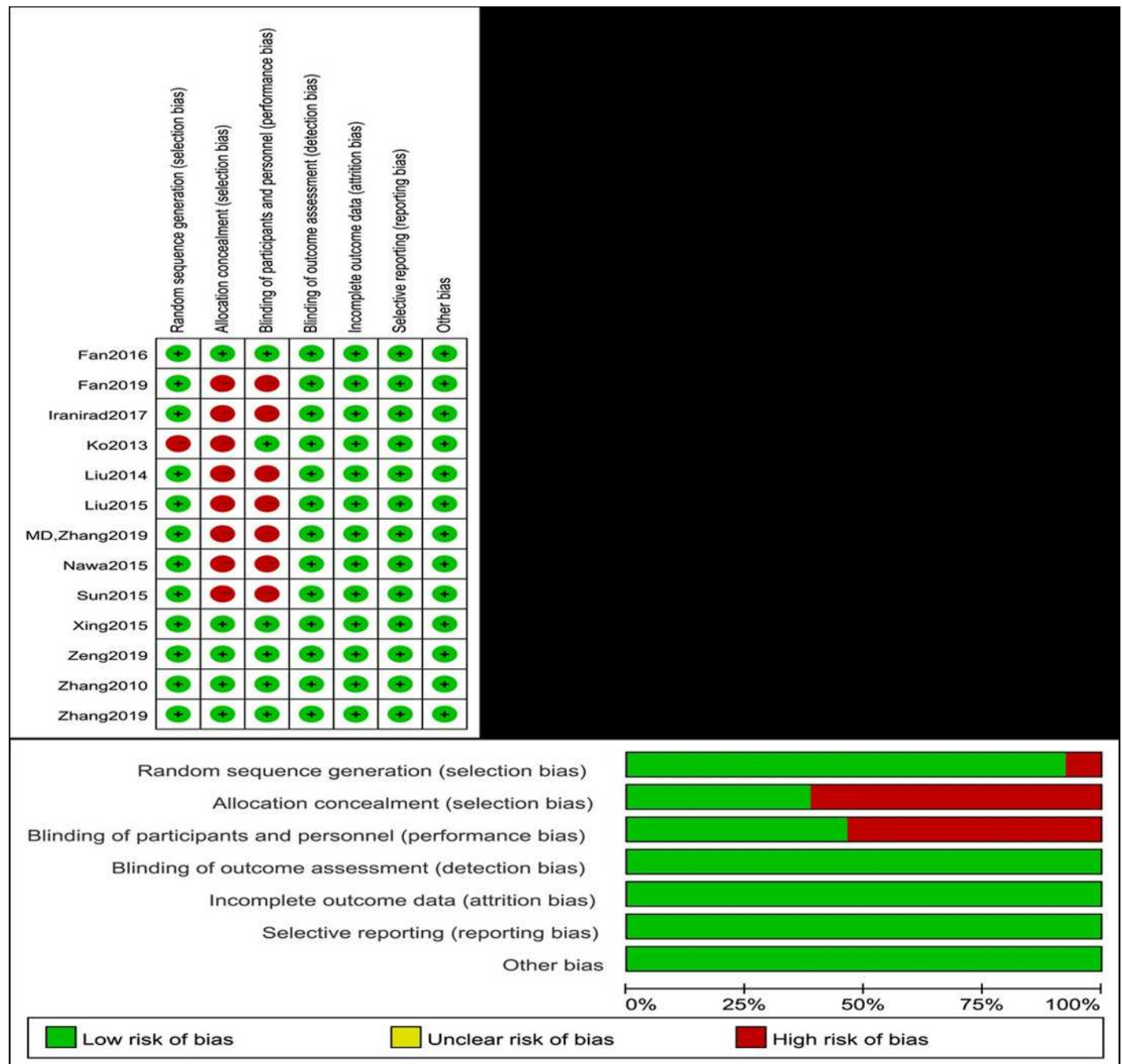
Network of all pharmacological agents included in the analysis. Nodes represent the treatments being compared. The edges indicate direct comparisons and the width is proportional to the number of trials.



# Figure 3

Risk of bias assessment

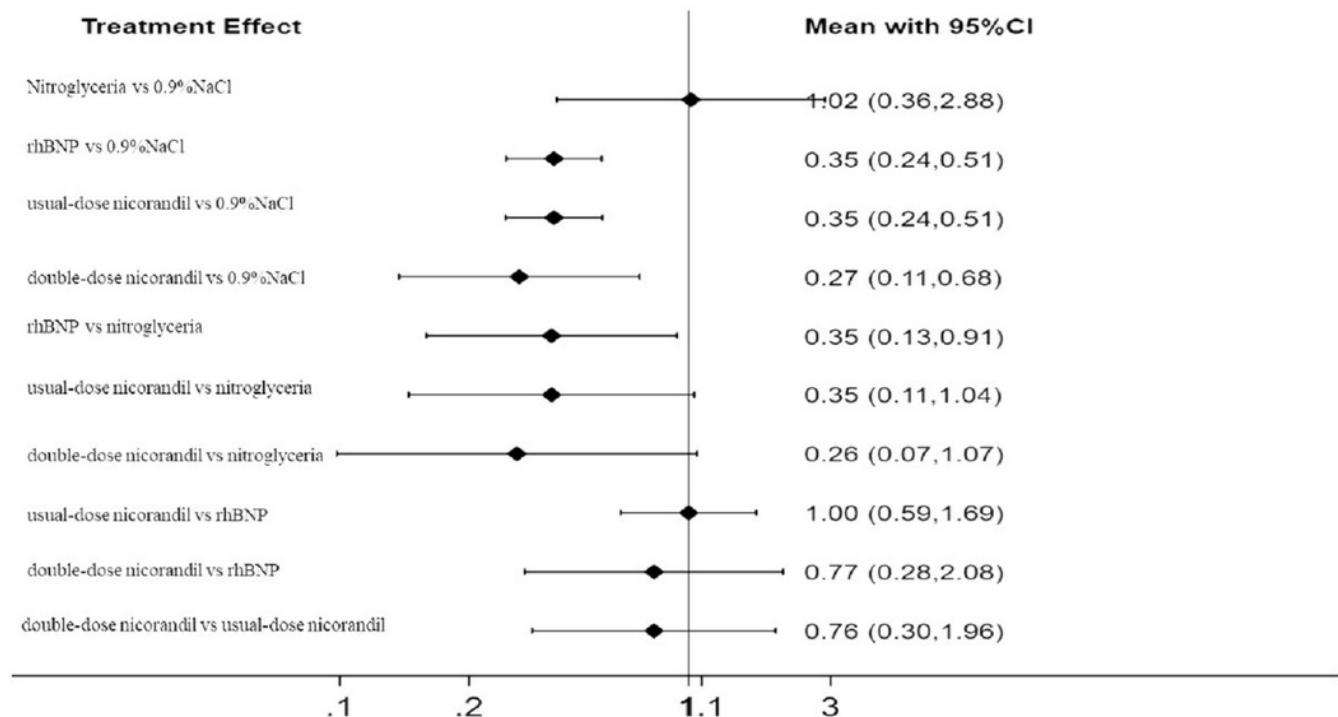
Risk of bias assessment



# Figure 4

Forest plots of network meta-analysis of all trials for the efficacy of the CIN incidence

Forest plots of network meta-analysis of all trials for the efficacy of the CIN incidence



# Figure 5

Pairwise comparisons of the efficacy of the thirteen drugs included in the study, reported in alphabetical order. The data represent the ORs, MDs, and 95% CIs in each grid

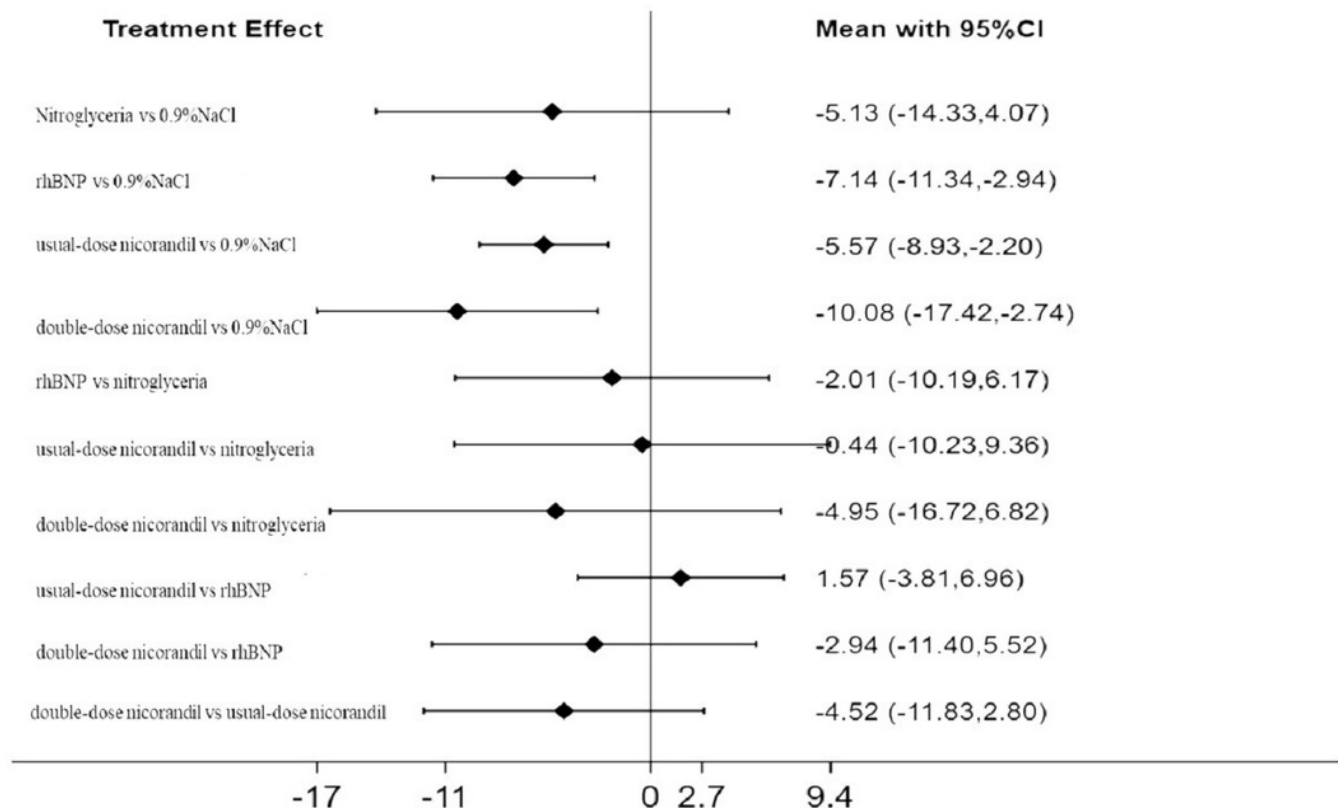
Pairwise comparisons of the efficacy of the thirteen drugs included in the study, reported in alphabetical order. The data represent the ORs, MDs, and 95% CIs in each grid

Incidence of CIN	Comparisons	Serum creatinine		
double-dose nicorandil	2.94 (-5.52,11.40)	4.52 (-2.80,11.83)	4.95 (-6.82,16.72)	10.08 (2.74,17.42)
0.77 (0.28,2.08)	usual-dose nicorandil	1.57 (-3.81,6.96)	2.01 (-6.17,10.19)	7.14 (2.94,11.34)
0.76 (0.30,1.96)	1.00 (0.59,1.69)	rhBNP	0.44 (-9.36,10.23)	5.57 (2.20,8.93)
0.26 (0.07,1.07)	0.35 (0.13,0.91)	0.35 (0.11,1.04)	nitroglyceria	5.13 (- 4.07,14.33)
0.27 (0.11,0.68)	0.35 (0.24,0.51)	0.35 (0.24,0.51)	1.02 (0.36,2.88)	0.9%NaCl

# Figure 6

Forest plots of network meta-analysis of all trials for the efficacy of the SCr levels.

Forest plots of network meta-analysis of all trials for the efficacy of the SCr levels.

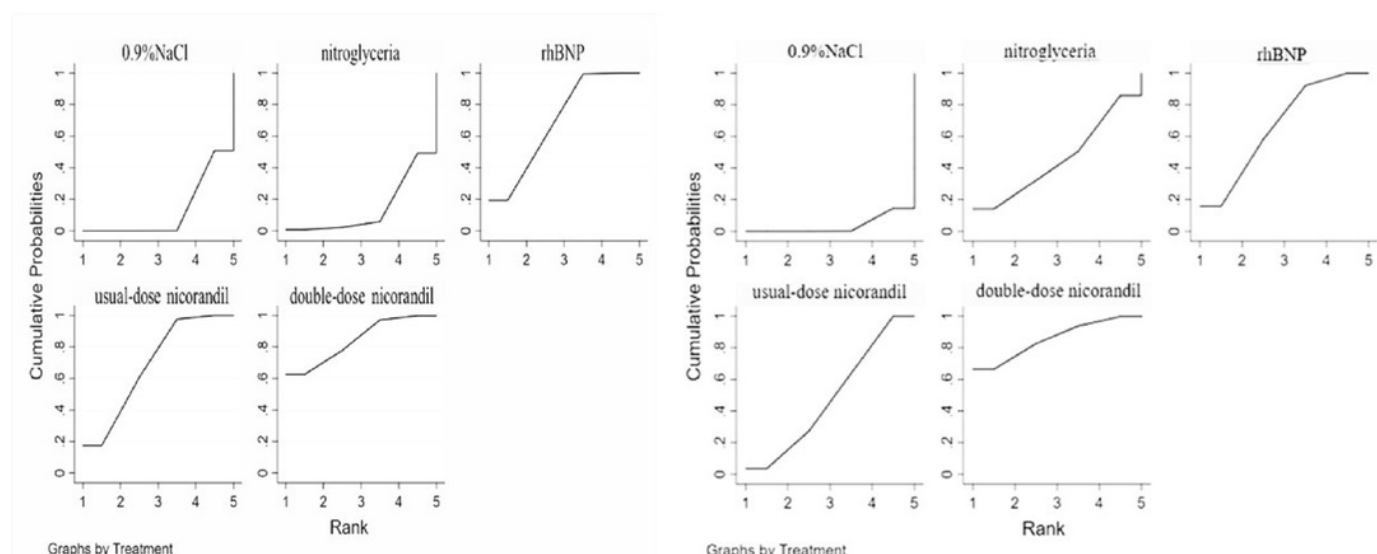




# Figure 7

Cumulative ranking probabilities(SUCRA values) for all interventions in the incidence of CIN and SCr levels. Pharmacological intervention is ranked according to SUCRA. The surface area size under the curve indicates the efficient extent of treatment. The

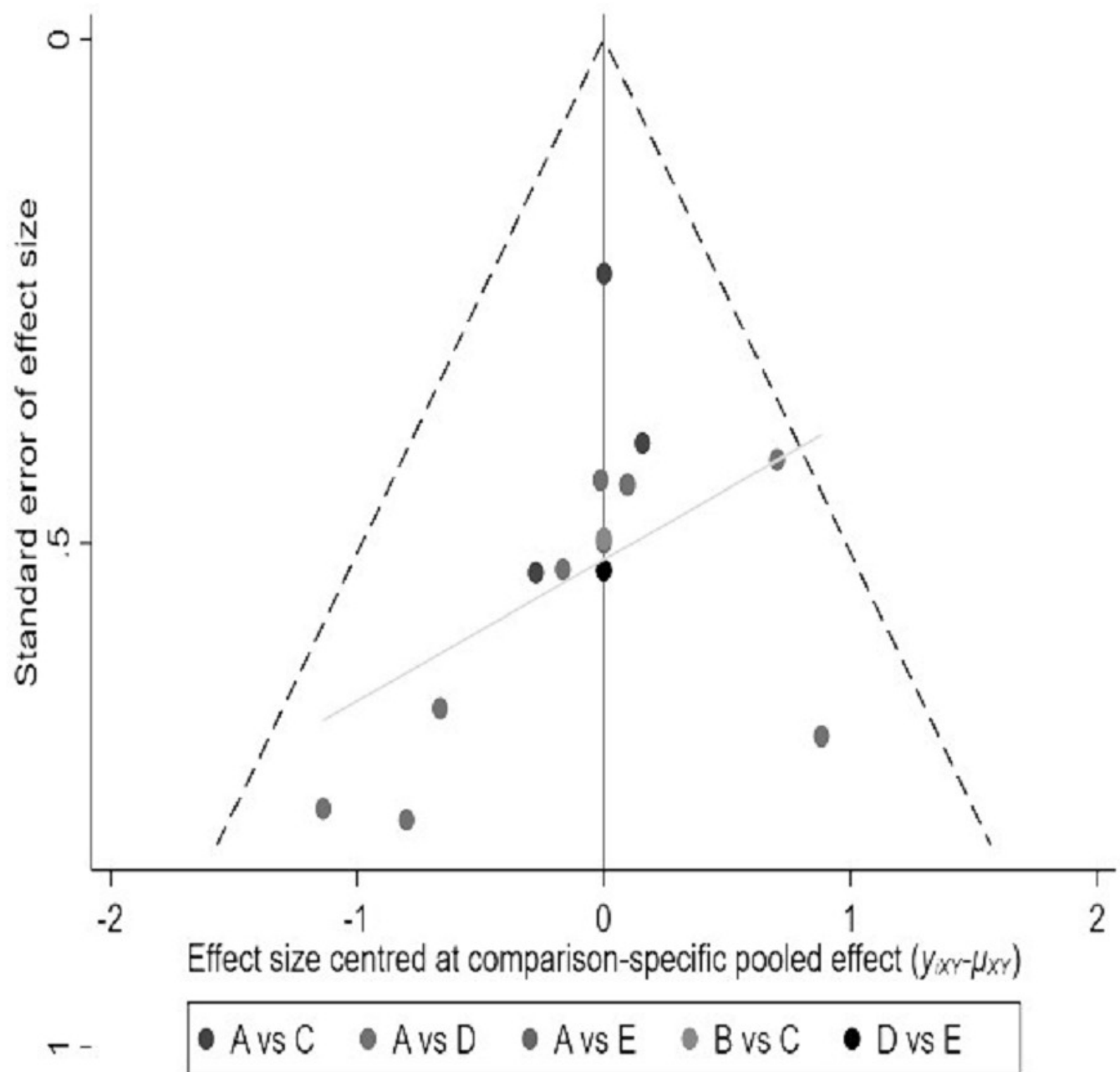
Cumulative ranking probabilities(SUCRA values) for all interventions in the incidence of CIN and SCr levels. Pharmacological intervention is ranked according to SUCRA. The surface area size under the curve indicates the efficient extent of treatment. The larger surface area under the curve represents greater efficacy of the intervention



# Figure 8

Comparison-adjusted funnel plots for the efficacy of the included agents. A=intravenous saline alone; B=nitroglycerin; C=rhBNP; D=usual-dose nicorandil; E=double-dose nicorandil

Comparison-adjusted funnel plots for the efficacy of the included agents. A=intravenous saline alone; B=nitroglycerin; C=rhBNP; D=usual-dose nicorandil; E=double-dose nicorandil



**Table 1**(on next page)

Characteristics of include studies

Characteristics of include studies

1

Table1: Characteristics of include studies

<i>Author /year</i>	<i>Size</i>	<i>Follow-up</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Study type</i>	<i>Interventions (no.)</i>	<i>Comparisons</i>	<i>Outcomes</i>	<i>Measures</i>	<i>Risk of bias</i>
Liu/2014	1000	7days	67y	RCT	0.9%NaCl(1mL/kg/h)(n=500) rhBNP(0.005ug/kg/min)(n=500)	rhBNP vs 0.9%NaCl	BUN, Scr, eGFR, CIN occurrence	odds ratio Mean±SD	
Liu/2015	209	1 month	69y	RCT	0.9%NaCl(1mL/kg/h)(n=103) rhBNP(0.005ug/kg/min)(n=106)	rhBNP vs 0.9%NaCl	Scr, eGFR, CIN occurrence	odds ratio Mean±SD	
Sun/2015	126	72h	60y	RCT	0.9%NaCl(1mL/kg/h)(n=63) rhBNP(1.5ug/kg)(n=63)	rhBNP vs 0.9%NaCl	Scr, CCI, CIN occurrence	odds ratio Mean±SD	
Xing/2015	116	72h	64y	RCT	nitroglycerin(20ug/min)(n=59) rhBNP(1.5ug/kg)(n=57)	rhBNP vs nitroglycerin	Scr, eGFR, Cys-C, CIN occurrence	odds ratio Mean±SD	
Zhang/2010	149	7days	65y	RCT	0.9%NaCl(0.5-1.5mL/kg)(n=75) rhBNP(1.5ug/kg)(n=74)	rhBNP vs 0.9%NaCl	Scr, eGFR, CIN occurrence	odds ratio Mean±SD	
Fan/2016	240	72h	67y	RCT	0.9%NaCl(1mL/kg/h)(n=120) nicorandil(10mg)(n=120)	nicorandil vs 0.9%NaCl	Scr, eGFR, Cys-C, CIN occurrence	odds ratio Mean±SD	
Fan/2019	252	72h	63y	RCT	0.9%NaCl(1mL/kg/h)(n=125) nicorandil(10mg)(n=127)	nicorandil vs 0.9%NaCl	Scr, eGFR, Cys-C, CIN occurrence	odds ratio Mean±SD	
Iranirad/2017	128	72h	61y	RCT	0.9%NaCl(1mL/kg/h)(n=64) nicorandil(10mg)(n=64)	nicorandil vs 0.9%NaCl	Scr, eGFR, CIN occurrence	odds ratio Mean±SD	
Ko/2013 NCT01103336	166	48h	71y	RCT	0.9%NaCl(100mL)(n=85) nicorandil(12mg)(n=81)	nicorandil vs 0.9%NaCl	Scr, eGFR, CIN occurrence	odds ratio Mean±SD	
Nawa/2015 UMIN000008544	213	1 month	70y	RCT	0.9%NaCl(1.1mL/kg/h)(n=107) nicorandil(0.096mg/mL)(n=106)	nicorandil vs 0.9%NaCl	Scr, eGFR, Cys-C, CIN occurrence	odds ratio Mean±SD	
Zeng/2019	330	48h	66y	RCT	0.9%NaCl(1.1mL/kg/h)(n=112) usual-dose nicorandil(15mg)(n=107) double-dose nicorandil(30mg)(n=111)	usual-dose nicorandil vs 0.9%NaCl double-dose nicorandil vs 0.9%NaCl	BUN, Scr, eGFR, Cys-C, CIN occurrence	odds ratio Mean±SD	
Zhang/2019	250	72h	67y	RCT	0.9%NaCl(1.0mL/kg/h)(n=125) nicorandil(10mg)(n=125)	nicorandil vs 0.9%NaCl	BUN, Scr, crCl, CIN occurrence	odds ratio Mean±SD	

Zhang/2019	300	72h	67y	RCT	0.9%NaCl(1.0mL/kg/h)(n=150) nicorandil(10mg)(n=150)	nicorandil vs 0.9%NaCl	BUN, Scr, Cys-C CIN occurrence	odds ratio Mean±SD
2 BUN: Blood urea nitrogen; Scr: Serum creatinine; eGFR: Estimated glomerular filtration rate; CIN: Contrast-induced nephropathy								

## Table 2 (on next page)

Baseline of studies included population

Baseline of studies included population

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Table2: Baseline of studies included population

Author /year	Liu/2014		Liu/2015		Sun/2015		Xing/2015		Zhang/2010		Zeng/2019		
Characteristic	0.9%NaCl	rhBNP	0.9%NaCl	rhBNP	0.9%NaCl	rhBNP	nitroglycerin	rhBNP	0.9%NaCl	rhBNP	0.9%NaCl	usual-dose nicorandil	double-dose nicorandil
Number	500	500	103	106	63	63	59	57	75	74	112	107	111
Age- years $\pm$ SD	65 $\pm$ 8.7	68 $\pm$ 9.2	69.8 $\pm$ 6.7	67.6 $\pm$ 7.2	60.37 $\pm$ 9.26	59.35 $\pm$ 9.01	58.64 $\pm$ 11.51	58.91 $\pm$ 9.81	67.27 $\pm$ 7.07	65.39 $\pm$ 7.51	66.69 $\pm$ 7.33	67.09 $\pm$ 6.85	65.37 $\pm$ 7.19
Male (%)	337(67.4)	347(69.2)	63(61.2%)	70(66.0%)	39(61.9)	38(60.3)	40(67.80)	41(71.93)	53(67.7)	52(73.4)	67(39.8)	73(68.2)	78(70.2)
Body mass index	25.2 $\pm$ 5.2	23.7 $\pm$ 4.5	25.4 $\pm$ 4.2	24.9 $\pm$ 5	24.1 $\pm$ 3.4	23.8 $\pm$ 3.7	26.78 $\pm$ 3.77	27.16 $\pm$ 4.42	NA	NA	24.60 $\pm$ 3.34	24.85 $\pm$ 2.63	24.67 $\pm$ 3.10
Diabetes mellitus(n%)	244(48.8)	256(51.2)	71(68.9%)	76(71.7%)	18(28.6)	13(20.6)	15(25.42)	18(31.58)	18(24)	24(32.4)	18(16.1)	21(19.6)	19(17.1)
Hypertension(n%)	276(55.2)	293(58.6)	59(57.3%)	62(58.5%)	41(65.1)	38(60.3)	35(59.32)	31(54.39)	NA	NA	59(52.7)	69(64.5)	42(37.8)
LVEF (%)	51 $\pm$ 4.4	53 $\pm$ 4.6	58.4 $\pm$ 10.5	61.1 $\pm$ 8.2	61.51 $\pm$ 2.97	61.81 $\pm$ 3.12	47.43 $\pm$ 7.20	44.95 $\pm$ 7.80	39.67 $\pm$ 4.76	39.14 $\pm$ 3.87	9(8.0)	5(4.7)	13(11.7)
Drugs													
ACEI/ARB (%)	NA	NA	NA	NA	23 (36.5)	23(36.5)	44(74.58%)	39(68.42%)	59(78.7)	61(81.3)	46(41.1)	56(52.3)	56(50.5)
$\beta$ -block (%)	NA	NA	NA	NA	49(77.8)	44(69.8)	43(72.88%)	48(84.21%)	17(22.7)	21(28.4)	93(83.8)	80(74.8)	81(73.0)
Statin (%)	491(98.2)	480(96)	102(99%)	103(97%)	NA	NA	56(94.92%)	56(98.25%)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Clopidogrel (%)	500(100)	500(100)	NA	NA	NA	NA	48(81.36%)	51(89.47%)	NA	NA	112(100)	107(100)	111(100)
CCB	NA	NA	NA	NA	24(38.1)	16(25.4)	31(52.54%)	23(40.35%)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Aspirin, n (%)	500(100)	500(100)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	112(100)	107(100)	111(100)
CAG, n (%)	175(35)	156(32.2)	36(35%)	33(31.1%)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
PCI, n (%)	325(65)	344(68.8)	67(65%)	73(68.9%)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

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Table2: Baseline of studies included population



Author/year	Fan/2016		Fan/2019		Iranirad/2017		Ko/2013		Nawa/2015		Zhang/2019		MD, Zhang/2019	
Characteristic	0.9%NaCl	nicorandil	0.9%NaCl	nicorandil	0.9%NaCl	nicorandil	0.9%NaCl	nicorandil	0.9%NaCl	nicorandil	0.9%NaCl	nicorandil	0.9%NaCl	ni
Number	120	120	125	127	64	64	85	81	107	106	125	125	150	15
Age- years $\pm$ SD	67.37 $\pm$ 6.33	66.07 $\pm$ 6.37	65.87 $\pm$ 17.62	62.25 $\pm$ 16.63	57.64 $\pm$ 12.42	61.35 $\pm$ 11.77	69.1 $\pm$ 10.3	70.8 $\pm$ 9.6	70.1 $\pm$ 8.1	70.4 $\pm$ 7.7	67.11 $\pm$ 7.19	67.25 $\pm$ 6.42	67.0 $\pm$ 7.2	67
Male (%)	95(79.17)	88(73.33)	67(53.60)	76(59.84)	40(62.5%)	39(60.9%)	51(67.1)	53(72.6)	74(78.7)	80(81.6)	114(76.0)	118(78.7)	89(71.2)	95
Body mass index	22.28 $\pm$ 2.98	22.36 $\pm$ 2.19	23.78 $\pm$ 5.98	24.35 $\pm$ 5.87	27.78 $\pm$ 4.8	28.43 $\pm$ 5.6	24.8 $\pm$ 3.7	24.1 $\pm$ 3.2	23.5 $\pm$ 2.9	23.4 $\pm$ 3.4	25.10 $\pm$ 2.02	24.80 $\pm$ 2.17	25.1 $\pm$ 2.0	24
Diabetes mellitus(n%)	62(51.67)	66(55.00)	75(60)	81(63.78)	26(40.6%)	27(42.2%)	42(55.3)	30(41.1)	NA	NA	NA	NA	29(23.2)	24
Hypertension(n%)	74(61.67)	69(57.50)	62(49.6)	68(53.54)	41(64.1%)	35(54.7%)	61(80.3)	57(78.1)	NA	NA	71(47.3)	69(46.0)	NA	NA
LVEF (%)	51.15 $\pm$ 6.36	50.36 $\pm$ 5.29	53.58 $\pm$ 12.77	51.39 $\pm$ 10.35	49.14 $\pm$ 5.8	48.87 $\pm$ 6.8	NA	NA	NA	NA	60.10 $\pm$ 6.88	60.11 $\pm$ 7.77	NA	NA
Drugs														
ACEI/ARB (%)	47(39.17)	56(46.67)	44(35.20)	46(36.22)	NA	NA	43(56.6)	47(64.4)	10(10.6)	4(4.1)	132(88.0)	134(89.3)	111(88.8)	11
$\beta$ -block (%)	94(78.33)	101(84.17)	53(42.40)	61(48.03)	NA	NA	35(46.1)	42(57.5)	23(23.4)	35(35.7)	118(78.7)	116(77.3)	111(88.8)	11
Statin (%)	112(93.33)	110(91.67)	83(66.40)	89(70.08)	NA	NA	43(56.6)	37(50.7)	NA	NA	139(92.7)	136(90.7)	NA	NA
Clopidogrel (%)	NA	NA	79(63.20)	83(65.35)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	150(100)	150(100)	NA	NA
CCB	34(28.33)	28(23.33)	56(44.80)	50(39.37)	NA	NA	36(47.4)	34(46.6)	NA	NA	NA	NA	21(16.8)	10
Aspirin, n (%)	NA	NA	101(80.80)	108(85.04)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	150(100)	150(100)	NA	NA
CAG, n (%)	75(62.50)	68(56.67)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
PCI, n (%)	27(22.50)	31(25.83)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

**Table 3**(on next page)

Ranking the CIN incidence of all included agents

Ranking the CIN incidence of all included agents

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Table3 Ranking the CIN incidence of all included agents

Treat	SUCRA	PrBest	MeanRank
0.9%NaCl	12.8	0.0	4.5
nitroglyceria	14.5	0.8	4.4
rhBNP	69.5	19.3	2.2
usual-dose nicorandil	68.9	17.4	2.2
double-dose nicorandil	84.3	62.5	1.6

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**Table 4**(on next page)

Ranking the Scr reducing levels of all included agents

Ranking the Scr reducing levels of all included agents

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Table4 Ranking the Scr reducing levels of all included agents

Treat	SUCRA	PrBest	MeanRank
0.9%NaCl	3.7	0.0	4.9
nitroglyceria	45.7	14.2	3.2
rhBNP	66.5	15.9	2.3
usual-dose nicorandil	48.6	3.6	3.1
double-dose nicorandil	85.6	66.4	1.6

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**Table 5**(on next page)

inconsistency assessment of all comparisons

inconsistency assessment of all comparisons

Table5 inconsistency assessment of all comparisons

Side	Direct		Indirect		Difference		P
	Coef	Std	Coef	Std	Coef	Std	
0.9%NaCl rhBNP	-1.044	0.188	-0.688	612.098	-0.355	612.098	1.000
0.9%NaCl double-dose nicorandil	-1.031	0.499	-2.722	0.916	1.691	0.939	0.072
nitroglyceria rhBNP	-1.062	0.495	-1.887	1707.83	0.826	1707.83	1.000
usual-dose nicorandil double-dose nicorandil	-0.657	0.527	1.034	0.869	-1.691	0.939	0.072